



Commanding Officer
United States Coast Guard
Marine Safety Office San Diego

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16465
11/01/99

LETTER OF PROMULGATION

From: Commanding Officer, USCG Marine Safety Office San Diego
To: Distribution

Subj: SAN DIEGO AREA CONTINGENCY PLAN

1. This Area Contingency Plan (ACP) for oil and hazardous materials spills in the San Diego planning area is effective upon receipt. This ACP shall replace all previous San Diego Area Contingency Plans. All previous plans have been superseded and should be destroyed to reduce confusion.
2. This plan shall remain in effect until superseded.
3. This plan is a non-registered, unclassified publication. Local reproduction of this plan is authorized.
4. This letter is to remain in the front of the plan.
5. Questions and comments concerning this plan should be directed to the attention of the Port Contingency Planner at the above address.

//s//

J. M. FARLEY
Commander, U. S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port
Designated Federal On Scene Coordinator



Dear California Area Committee Members:

As we enter the new millennium we would like to commend you on your continued efforts and dedication in refining our most valuable oil spill response tool: the Area Contingency Plan (ACP). Since their inception in 1992, the California Area Committees have remained committed in their efforts by participating in quarterly meetings, supporting field and table-top exercises, and meeting plan revision deadlines. You have made the Area Contingency Plan a living document that is utilized in protecting California's valuable shoreline resources from the impacts of oil pollution.

Among the many Area Committee accomplishments are the consolidation of seven separate plans into three streamlined ACPs; the reformatting of the ACPs from a cumbersome alpha-numeric format into a much more user-friendly version aligned with the Incident Command System (ICS) protocols; an increase in the identification of environmentally sensitive sites and development of protection strategies throughout the State; a revision of equipment resource sections in response to results generated from field-testing and suggested response strategies; incorporation of alternative response strategies; and making each of the California ACPs accessible on the Internet. These important changes have resulted in: increased ACP accuracy and accessibility to committee members and to the public; a significant reduction in document reproductions; and increased speed and wider distribution of the latest revision of the plans.

The California Area Contingency Plan format has been praised not only by the California response community, but has been recognized throughout the country as a model plan format to follow. This is an incredible feat the Area Committees have accomplished in the effort to improve response capabilities in one of the nation's most environmentally sensitive regions.

In order to truly appreciate their value, we can only imagine what it would be like to respond to a major oil spill without the ACPs. We therefore extend our gratitude to you for a job well done. We look forward to serving with you in the new millennium and applaud your efforts in helping to preserve our coastal resources.

F. L. WHIPPLE
Chief, Marine Safety
Pacific Area/Eleventh
Coast Guard District

GARY GREGORY
Administrator,
State of California Office of
Spill Prevention and Response

MICHAEL FEELEY
Deputy Director, Superfund
Division, U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency, Region IX

Date: NOV 4 1999

Date: NOV 8 1999

Date: NOV 16 1999